



The Office of
Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
helping people afford their lives and live with dignity and respect • www.ag.state.mn.us

March 16, 2023

Representative Jamie Becker-Finn, Chair
Minnesota House Judiciary Finance and Policy Committee
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Becker-Finn and Members,

I urge you to support HF 2442/SF 2476, a bill that would prohibit employer-sponsored meetings when held for the purpose of communicating the employer's opinion about religious or political matters, including whether or not to join or support a labor union.

Minnesotans deserve the ability to afford their lives and live with dignity, safety, and respect. One part of this is a commitment to making sure that Minnesotans can live their lives free from pressure from their employer regarding religious and political matters.

When an employer holds captive-audience meetings, it interferes with workers' ability to make choices without pressure from their employer. Prohibiting captive audience meetings is necessary as a matter of basic fairness. If this bill is not passed, employers could demand that employees attend these types of meetings, but employees could not demand employer attendance at meetings in return. The result is unequal bargaining power that puts employees at a disadvantage.

Part of the commitment to affording your life and living with dignity, safety, and respect is also being able to collectively bargain with your employer. No employer should infringe on the right to organize. This bill protects that right and takes clear, targeted steps toward a fair workplace for workers in Minnesota. I encourage you to support the bill.

Sincerely,

KEITH ELLISON
Attorney General